

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 COME-00 STR-04 AGRE-00 LAB-04
TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INT-05 /034 W
----- 048501 /66

R 171844Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1848
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANAGUA 5786

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, NU
SUBJECT: GSP: TPSC REVIEW OF PRODUCTS FOR ADDITION

REF: STATE 286114

1. EMBASSY HAS NOT YET RECEIVED REPLY FROM GON
REGARDING INFORMATION REQUESTED IN REFTEL. HOWEVER,
OWN RESEARCH AND INFORMAL CONTACTS WITH NICARAGUA'S
EXPORT PROMOTION OFFICE INDICATE THE FOLLOWING:

A. NICARAGUA PRODUCES A MINIMAL AMOUNT OF
VEGETABLES PACKED IN BRINE AND EXPORT STATISTICS
INDICATE NO SUCH PRODUCTS ARE CURRENTLY BEING
EXPORTED.

B. NICARAGUA DOES PRODUCE BRADS AND NAILS. ONE
FIRM, INDUSTRIA NACIONAL DE CLAVOS Y ALAMBRES DE PUAS, S.A.
(INCA S.A.) HAS BEEN PRODUCING BRADS AND NAILS FOR
SEVERAL YEARS. THIS FIRM REPORTEDLY PRODUCED
18,000 METRIC TONS OF NAILS AND FENCE WIRE IN 1975,
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AND PLANT EXPANSION IS NOW UNDERWAY. ANOTHER FIRM,
ACEROS NICARAGUENSES, IS PLANNING TO BEGIN PRODUCING
BRADS AND NAILS SOME TIME IN 1977; OFFICIALS OF THIS
SECOND FIRM INDICATE THEY ARE NOT CONSIDERING PRODUCTION
FOR SALE OUTSIDE THE CACM.

C. EXPORTS OF BRADS AND NAILS TO DATE HAVE BEEN
EXCLUSIVELY TO THE OTHER CACM COUNTRIES AND PANAMA:

	US\$	KG.
1973	219,631	635,868
1974	885,350	1,380,753
1975	649,388	1,085,787

D. INCA S.A. MANUFACTURES ITS BRADS, NAILS, AND
WIRE FROM LOCALLY-ACQUIRED SCRAP AND IMPORTED IRON
AND STEEL. ACEROS NICARAGUENSES WOULD MANUFACTURE
EXCLUSIVELY USING IMPORTED RAW MATERIALS. MOST OF
INCA'S IMPORTS NOW COME FROM JAPAN.

E. IT IS DOUBTFUL NICARAGUA WILL DEVELOP A MAJOR METAL
FABRICATING INDUSTRY, AND EXPANDED EXPORTS OF BRADS
AND NAILS DO NOT APPEAR TO FIT CLOSELY INTO OVERALL
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS. NEVERTHELESS, INCA S.A.'S
CACM EXPORTS HAVE BEEN IMPRESSIVE, AND METAL
FABRICATING MAY BE A VIABLE INDUSTRY IN
NICARAGUA. FOOD PROCESSING, AT THE SAME TIME,
IS AN INDUSTRY OF PRIME IMPORTANCE OF NICARAGUA'S
FUTURE DEVELOPMENT, GIVEN THE COUNTRY'S EXCELLENT
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES. HERE THE GSP COULD VERY WELL
PLAY ITS DESIGNATED ROLE AS A STIMULATOR OF NEW
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS. ALTHOUGH
NICARAGUA DOES NOT NOW PRODUCE VEGETABLES PACKED
IN BRINE, IT HAS THE RESOURCES AND RAW MATERIALS TO DO SO.

2. EMBASSY WILL FORWARD ANY OFFICIAL INFORMATION
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OBTAINED FROM GON AS SOON AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE.
IN THE MEAN TIME THE ABOVE INFORMATION WILL HOPEFULLY
SUFFICE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMODITIES, EXPORTS, GENERALIZED PREFERENCES (TARIFFS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MANAGU05786
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760465-0739
From: MANAGUA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761233/aaaabcq.tel
Line Count: 101
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 286114
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUL 2004 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <27 OCT 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GSP: TPSC REVIEW OF PRODUCTS FOR ADDITION
TAGS: ETRD, NU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006